Compare/Contrast Paper Rubric

(5) Length – 3-5 pages

(10) Introduction - Catchy, personal, makes reader want to read on. Background information is informative and engaging.

(5)Topic/Purpose-the writer makes it clear why the comparison is made: to inform, to evaluate, to persuade readers to accept a viewpoint, eliminate misconceptions or draw a surprising analogy.

(5) Thesis – solid well written thesis following the samples provided in the book pg. 341-342 (both subjects being compared/contrasted are named, indicates whether the essay focuses on the subjects similarities, differences, or both, state the essay’s main point of comparison or contrast).

(20) Support-are there any significant points missing? Do any points of comparison/contrast need further development?

(10) Organization: is the essay organized primarily the by the one-side-at-a time method or the point-by-point method? Are the same features discussed in each subject in the same order?

(10) Use of Sources – 3-5 - Appropriate quotes/ paraphrases support position and are well-integrated into text. The writer uses well-chosen source material.

(10) Conclusion - The reader is left with a sense of understanding. Main idea is reinforced in an interesting way.

(5) Style/Tone - College-level prose with a sense of audience; fluency and ease with academic language. The writer uses transitions between paragraphs.

(10) MLA Format - Virtually error-free in-text citations

(10) Works Cited page error free formatting

TOTAL = 100 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (50) Grammar, Usage and Mechanics Correctness - Virtually error-free